

Blount's Butler Is on the P.O. Payroll

By Drew Pearson
and Jack Anderson

Postmaster General Winton Blount, the able Alabama building tycoon, has made a big noise over saving the taxpayers' money and eliminating political hacks from the postal payroll. Simultaneously he has brought his butler, Jethro Butcher, up to Washington from Alabama and added him to the post office payroll.

The genial, 62-year-old Negro collects \$6321 a year from the taxpayers for waiting on Blount. Butcher also has an official title to go with his Government salary—"Special Assistant to the Postmaster General."

A Post Office spokesman explained that Butcher delivers official messages from the Postmaster General to members of Congress. Members who have met Butcher, however, recall that he was wearing a white coat and was serving them filet mignon in the Postmaster General's private dining room.

In addition to his butler duties, Butcher also serves as Blount's cook, valet and handyman. He broils the steaks to order in the Postmaster General's private kitchen.

As the Nation's postal pandrum, Blount has inherited the most grandiose office-kitchen-dining complex in Washington. Designed by big Jim Farley, few grand ball-

rooms can compare with it for size and splendor.

Not since Louis XIV has so much public money been lavished on a public official's office. Even the reception room with its high ceilings and great chandeliers somewhat resemble the throne room at Versailles.

In these magnificent surroundings, Blount, the Chamber of Commerce executive from Alabama, looks as if he had wandered by mistake into the 17th century.